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academic ghosts appears from his unhesitating charge that many judicial errors, miscarriages of justice, may be traced to their root in a defective, partial, or badly conducted preliminary examination.

The main body of the book falls naturally into a three-sided investigation of the author's central thesis. The first line of argument has to do with defense in general; the second with the role of defense in the evolution of penal procedure, particularly in the development of the preliminary investigation; the third is a digest and criticism of the various and discordant opinions on the subject. His general conclusion is that the right to defense must not only be *admitted*, but better than that, it must fit into the procedure of investigation as one of its *fundamental functions*.

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ARTHUR J. TODD.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON PROBATION FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1912. THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. State printers, 18 Post Office Square, Boston, Mass.

The Commission on Probation for the State of Massachusetts reports for the year 1912 that probation as a method of dealing with certain offenders against the law has become the settled practice in the courts of the state, that the true principles which should govern the work of probation are better understood by the courts and the probation officers and that reformation and not leniency is becoming more and more the guiding principle.

That the courts are using the probation system more is evidenced by the fact that 1,651 more people were placed on probation than during the year previous, and that \$136,511.85 was collected by probation officers, an amount which exceeded that collected in the previous year by \$50,000, and which exceeds the entire cost of the probation service for the state by more than \$20,000.

The commission emphatically states its opinion that the conferences of judges and probation officers and the visits of the deputy commissioner to the various courts have been of great value in unifying the work throughout the state.

There are seventy-one courts in Massachusetts dealing with criminal cases, exclusive of the superior courts the number of which is not given. In all the courts there are 111 probation officers, divided as follows:

Superior Courts	15
Boston Juvenile Court	2
Municipal Court	25
Police Courts	18
District Courts	51

The statistical tables show that these officers handled 17,538 probation cases in the year. These officers also investigated 730 cases of persons in prison, 475 of whom were released on the recommendation of the officers. Only ten others of the 730 were released against such recom-

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mendation. The tables also show that 15,850 cases of drunkenness were investigated at the request of the different courts and 86,537 other cases of drunken persons arrested. This makes a total of 120,655 cases handled by 111 people in one year. It would seem that more officers would be needed for this amount of work, but such a request does not appear in the report.

The statistical tables also state the following results:

	Numbersurrendered to court for violation of terms of probation.	Number disappeared and defaulted.	Number arrested for new offenses during probation.	Number who had probation extended.	Number of cases on file or discharged at expiration of probation.
Superior Courts	118	34	166	10	463
Municipal Courts	1139	886	80	549	3919
Police Courts	309	118	49	665	2392
District Courts	681	440	220	1221	3490
	2447	1478	515	2445	10264

From these figures one would say that 4440 cases—the total of the first three columns—were unsuccessful probation cases, and 10264 successful, with 2445 doubtful. Of the total number of cases heard in all the courts 10.2% were placed on probation.

The results of the Boston Juvenile Court are shown by the following table:

SURRENDERED FROM PROBATION.				
Committed	Committed		Fined	Continued
36	By Other Courts		2	2
4	Probation Extended or Renewed	Probation to Pay Fine	Disappeared or Defaulted	On File
23	35	10	33	339

The Commission recommends that women offenders be placed on probation to women officers; that probation officers who handle large sums of money be required to furnish bond, and that the different courts having jurisdiction in cases of juvenile delinquency adopt the same practice for the cases of children between the ages of 14 and 17.

An interesting section of the report shows the relationship of the probation work to the enforcement of the new desertion law, which provides for the payment of money to the families of prisoners from the annual appropriation for the maintenance of a penal or reformatory institution in which any person is confined by virtue of a sentence under the non-support law. Because of this law about \$3000 has been paid by the Boston House of Correction to dependent families. It also furnishes a partial reason for the 80% increase in the money received in non-support cases.

From the commonwealth of Massachusetts one would expect a more comprehensive report than the above. The report of the Commission covers only four pages and that of the Deputy Commissioner ten, with

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thirty-six pages of tables. The work of the Juvenile Probation Officers is disposed of in three and one-half pages of report and two statistical tables. As very little is said concerning methods of administration, and as the treatment of each subject is exceedingly brief, this report is of little value to probation officers from other states.

Chicago.

JOEL D. HUNTER.

STERILISATION UND KASTRATION ALS HILFSMITTEL IM KAMPFE GEGEN DAS VERBRECHEN. Von *Dr. Friedr. Ludw. Gerngross*. J. F. Lehmann's Verlag, Munchen, 1913, pp. 39 M, 1.20.

The idea that society has a right to and should protect itself against its anti-social members, so warmly agitated at the present time, is by no means a new one.

Already in the ancient Greek and Roman states there was a recognition of this principle, but we of today shudder at the mere mention of the methods used by the ancients. The next step in our efforts to deal with this problem was the enactment of laws forbidding the unfit to marry. Some of our own states were among the first to enact such laws, but it was soon discovered that while these laws were absolutely correct in principle, they were entirely useless in practice. Prevention of marriage does not in the least assure prevention of propagation. Especially is this true among the classes under consideration here. With them restriction of marriage means in most instances an increase in illegitimacy.

Asexualization of the unfit is the present-day battle cry in all quarters, and it is with the legal phases of these preventive measures that the author, whose pamphlet of some forty pages is before us, concerns himself. Gerngross, a jurist, commits himself unqualifiedly for sterilization as a means of prevention of crime, and it is indeed gratifying to the medical profession to see so much interest in this purely medical subject on the part of their legal brethren. For the very interesting discussion of the legal phases of this problem, we will have to refer the reader to the original, as it lends itself but very poorly to brief abstraction.

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DIE RASSENHYGIENE IN DEN VEREINIGTEN STAATEN VON NORD AMERIKA. Von *Geza Von Hoffman*. J. F. Lehmann's Verlag, Munchen, 1913, pp. 250, M 4.

There was a time when the mere suggestion of the possibility of America teaching Europe anything in the biologic sciences would have provoked a good deal of doubt; and it is indeed very gratifying to see that the unexpected has happened.

In the volume before us, we see an attempt by a European to bring before his countrymen in their own language a critical summary of the activities in the United States in the field of Eugenics or Race-culture.

The author particularly emphasizes the practical, the every-day